



County of Door DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

County Government Center
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Social Services Committee Meeting September 17, 2009

1. Call to Order: Chair Mark Moeller called the September 17, 2009 meeting of the Social Services Committee to order at 3:02 p.m. Committee members present were, Charles Brann, Joel Gunnlaugsson, Ben Meyer, and Marc Savard. Department staff present were Roger Tepe, Bev Knutson, Doreen Weyenberg, and Kay Englebert. Joanne Ator was not present at the beginning of the meeting; however later arrived at 3:21 p.m.

2. Establish a Quorum: Enough committee members were in attendance to establish a quorum (all members were present).

3. Approve Agenda: Motion by Charles Brann, second by Joel Gunnlaugsson to adopt the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

4. Public Participation: Marty Martinez, an individual from the public, and Mark Janiak, Finance Department, attended the meeting. Marty Martinez spoke regarding utility work that was being done in the City of Sturgeon Bay – replacing conduits. Marty was asking if there was a way to get a cost break on the watering. What is being done is the utilities conduct their work and repair the lawn. It is up to the owner of the property to maintain / water that area. This can become a hardship on seniors to pay for the cost of additional water used. Chairman Mark Moeller noted that this issue did not pertain to the Social Services Committee; however suggestions of contacting your alderman, attending a utilities commission meeting, or contacting the city administrator were made as this issue is a city matter.

No other public participation took place.

5. Review and Approve Minutes of Social Services Committee Meeting. Motion by Ben Meyer, second by Joel Gunnlaugsson to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2009 meeting of the Social Services Committee. It is noted to correct the minutes to read "Dori Weyenberg was excused from the meeting." Motion carried.

6. Review and Approve Vouchers to be paid in September, 2009. Upon review and discussion, motion by Ben Meyer, second by Mark Moeller to approve the vouchers as submitted and detailed below:

Social Services

Total Social Services expenditures submitted for approval

\$ 184,522.88

Senior Resource Center

Total Senior Resource Center expenditures submitted for approval \$ 24,588.18

Total Expenditures for approval \$ 209,111.06

The motion carried unanimously.

7. Action: 2010 Social Services / Senior Resource Center Budget. Roger Tepe reported to the Committee that the complete County budget, including the Social Services / Senior Resource Center budgets was presented to the Finance Committee on September 11th. Roger shared more specific information about the DSS / SCR budgets, in particular, with the Committee members. The 2010 budgets as shown reflect actual (not estimated) numbers; however, Roger noted that there may be slight shifts in some program lines as funding from the State comes in. Roger went over major expenditure increases and decreases and major revenue increases and decreases (see attached) with the Committee.

After a thorough review of the Social Services / Senior Resource Center budgets, Ben Meyer moved to accept the Social Services / Senior Resource Center budgets as presented, being satisfied that the Department Staff have made the necessary adjustments to present a budget for 2010 that is fiscally conservative, realistic, and will meet the needs of the citizens of Door County in all of our designated program areas (to the best of our ability within the limits of available funding). These budgets will be returned to the Finance Committee for a final review and recommendation prior to final approval by the full County Board on November 2-3, 2009. Charles Brann seconded the motion. Committee member Marc Savard wanted referenced in the minutes that the word "accept" does not mean "approve". A lengthy discussion took place regarding the loss of a replacement social worker in the Adult (Long Term Care) Unit. After the discussion, the Committee voted on the motion as presented; and the motion carried unanimously.

8. Action: Public Participation Planning Process. Each year, Counties have to file with the State their plan for Public Participation. Roger Tepe asked the Committee members if they would like to use the same process for 2010 as they did in 2009, namely public hearings with sufficient advance notice in the media. Ben Meyer moved to re-affirm that the Social Services Committee still supports the use of Public Hearings to meet our annual Public Participation requirement on the budget; and written documentation of that usage in 2009 for the 2010 budget will be sent to the State of Wisconsin. Joel Gunnlaugsson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

9. Information: Full – Time Supervisor at the Senior Resource Center. Roger Tepe updated the Committee on the full – time supervisor position at the Senior Resource Center since the last committee meeting in August. As of January 1, 2010, Bev Knutson will be at the Senior Resource Center full – time. Funding for this position has been obtained and budgeted for. Roger also shared a revised organizational chart with the committee showing the removal of one full time equivalent Long Term Care Social Worker, per the earlier action of the Joint Finance / Administrative Committees.

The Committee took no action.

10. Recurring Reports, Informational Only.

ADRC/Family Care: A second meeting took place on September 2nd with Roger Tepe, Bev Knutson, Joe Krebsbach, Cindy Zellner - Ehlers, and staff from Kewaunee County regarding a joint ADRC. At this meeting, there were more questions than available

answers that came up. Some questions that came up were: What other options for governance structures are there? How will the funding be handled / moved between the counties? Another concern brought up was staffing – will there be “shared” staff in the offices? Roger Tepe prepared a list of these questions / issues from this meeting and forwarded them to the State. When all of the answers are obtained, the two counties will meet again and hopefully proceed forward. Brown County has already passed on doing a joint ADRC with Kewaunee County, but Kewaunee County is still hesitant about a joint ADRC with Door County. Either way, Door County will keep moving forward on some level of ADRC development, with or without another county partner.

Roger shared a detailed printout that outlines the milestones / timeline for the new Long Term Care district (see attached). By late December 2011 or the early part of 2012, enrollment in Long Term Care should begin.

Regarding Family Care, Community Care, Inc. has signed a contract to provide technical assistance to the 7 county planning group; and Andy Phillips has been approached about a contract to provide legal consultation and assistance.

5311 Transportation Funding: Roger has been busy working on three (3) grant applications related to transportation – 5311 Operating Assistance, 5311 Capital Assistance, and 85.21 Elderly / Disabled Transportation Assistance. The 5311 Capital Assistance grant would enable the County to purchase vehicles and lease them to organizations such as the American Red Cross and Sunshine House for their transportation services. By the summer of 2011, a small scale public transit system could be implemented in the Sturgeon Bay area.

Roger also commented on some new problems with the ½ price transportation vouchers that are available through Door-Tran. Apparently, we inadvertently mixed 5311 and New Freedom grant funds together to subsidize vouchers; and this is not permitted by the U.S. D.O.T. as there can only be one category of federal transportation dollars used in any given local program.

The committee took no action.

11. Supervisor's Reports, Program Units, Informational Only.

Adult Services. Bev Knutson gave a report on the Adult Unit. There are currently 23 clients on the waiting list. Funds were recently freed up due to clients who have passed away. This will allow some clients to be removed from the waiting list. Bev also commented on recent elder abuse reports pertaining to financial scamming.

The Senior Resource Center will have an open house on Friday, September 25th to show case the newly remodeled exercise room. Seniors will be able to ask questions of health professionals and nutritious snacks will be served. The open house is from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Bev commented that a younger crowd, seniors in their 60's, has been coming to the center more frequently now.

Child and Family Services. Dori Weyenberg stated that everything is going well in her unit. Dori updated the Committee on the numbers of children / juveniles that are in placement. Dori also commented that foster homes are used to provide respite care for families or other care givers that need a break from stressful situations.

Economic Support. Joanne Ator reported to the Committee that the caseloads for Foodshare and BadgerCare in August of 2009 were at 2,060; an increase of 215 cases from August of 2008. The Foodshare case loads for July of 2009 were at 791; an increase of 210 cases from July of 2008, which translates to an increase of 544 people.

The W-2 Children's Services Network met with Noel Ryder of Lakeshore CAP, which has been awarded a two (2) year grant in the amount of \$298,000.00 to prevent homelessness in Door County. Joanne commented that we are seeing more and more clients coming in and asking for assistance with rent. Lakeshore CAP will be the payer of first resort; however Door County Housing Authority and Salvation Army will provide assistance as well.

Since the BadgerCare Core Plan rolled out on June 15th, the State has been unable to keep up with processing applications in a timely manner. It was reported that 72,754 individuals have applied for the BadgerCare Core Plan, 24,000 applications have been processed, and 16,000 applications have been confirmed as eligible for benefits. Individuals who apply for this insurance program may also apply for the Foodshare program as well. Due to the back log of applications, individuals applying for Foodshare have waited longer than the 7 day processing period for emergency assistance. It was decided that Door County will process those applications for individuals with no dependent children for the Foodshare program to expedite them receiving their benefits. Joanne noted that other counties have taken on that responsibility as well. Joanne also reported that the State did hire 25 counties to assist with the back log and they will be working nights and weekends to help out the State.

A discussion took place regarding child care fraud. Joanne assured the Committee members that a process is in place for the child care program in Door County; and that we have a great relationship with the providers. If there is any overpayment for services, a payment plan is worked out or as a last resort; a tax interception can be done.

Support Services. Kay Englebert stated she had nothing new to report. She has been busy working on the budget.

The committee took no action on informational items presented.

12. Information: Director's Report. Due to the late hour and the extensiveness of his comments on a number of earlier agenda items, Roger Tepe did not provide any additional report during this agenda section.

13. Set Next Meeting Date: The committee set its next monthly meeting for 1:30 p.m., October 13, 2009 at the Government Center – Chambers Room. The next Public Hearing will be November 10, 2009 for the 85.21 Transportation Program at the Senior Resource Center at 1:30 p.m.

14. Adjournment: Motion by Marc Savard, second by Charles Brann to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Coulthurst
Recording Secretary

APPROVED BY: 